

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of purchasing digital content over the Internet is based on embedding necessary information called attributes in or with the digital content (such as the price and who is the seller), then preventing the user from accessing the content until the user is authorized to do so. The concept of a self authorizing self destructing digital content eliminates the need for Merchant sites to support payment processing as a function or extension of their web server applications. Instead of relying on a web server based payment processing method, the digital content itself is modified to invoke software resident on the users computer. When a user selects an item of digital content that they wish to purchase, it is downloaded to the users computer. There the instructions and or software programs embedded in the digital content will interact with a third party software to authorize the purchase.